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APRIL 7, 1987

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WEST VIRGINIA TO RECEIVE FUNDS FROM HANDS ACROSS AMERICA

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall announced today that the state of West Virginia will receive ^{# 126,398} ~~more than \$125,000~~ from the 1986 Hands Across America event.

~~A press conference will be held April, 8 in Charleston at which time it will be announced that \$126,398 was raised for West Virginia as a result of the public demonstration held May 25, 1986. The funds will be distributed to groups working to end hunger and homelessness in the Mountain State.~~

"It would be a great oversight and a sign of ignorance for someone to say that there is no homelessness problem in West Virginia," Rahall said. "Unfortunately there is a problem and I have worked and supported measures in Congress to help solve this great problem facing us. More than six million people joined hands to demonstrate concern for the hungry and homeless in our country and have helped create an unprecedented awareness in communities all across the nation."

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*-I will be sleeping out in Houston 4/24
to better acquaint myself of the plight of
the homeless in that city*

RECEIVED
WASHINGTON OFFICE
1988 APR -7 AM 9:16



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HANDS ACROSS AMERICA ANNOUNCES GRANTS

On May 25, 1986, Americans like you joined hands to demonstrate our shared concern for the hungry and the homeless in our country. The more than six million Americans who participated in **HANDS ACROSS AMERICA** have helped create an unprecedented awareness and momentum on these issues in individual communities all across the country.

We are pleased to advise you that a press conference will be held April 8, 1987, in Charleston to announce that \$126,398 raised as a result of that public demonstration will be distributed to groups working to end hunger and homelessness in West Virginia.

Groups and individuals who deal with these issues on an on-going basis have worked together in a collaborative, coordinated approach to recommend how this money should be used. As a result of their careful and deliberate work, the money will be used in the most responsible -- quite often innovative -- way, resulting in a long-term impact on both the effects and the causes of hunger and homelessness.

May 25th was only a beginning, and the distribution of \$126,398 in West Virginia is not the end. All of us must continue to work together nationally and locally until hunger and homelessness no longer exist.



FACT SHEET

FACT: USA for Africa, the parent foundation of the WE ARE THE WORLD and HANDS ACROSS AMERICA projects, raised \$82.5 million from its inception on January 10, 1985 through December 31, 1986.

FACT: By May 25, 1987 80% of all funds raised by the two projects will have been awarded for distribution by the USAFA Board of Directors.

FACT: USAFA has spent only \$1,652,644 -- just 2% of its revenue -- on general and administrative overhead.

FACT: The cost of raising the \$82.5 million was \$5,677,857, just 7% of the total raised.

FACT: 91% of the funds collected will be spent on programs to help the hungry and homeless both here and in Africa.

FACT: Almost 2/3 of the money donated by the public for HANDS ACROSS AMERICA is being distributed throughout the nation to impact on the problems of hunger and homelessness.

FACT: As of March 25, 1987, 350 groups across the nation have received funds from the HANDS ACROSS AMERICA public demonstration recognizing the plight of the hungry and homeless in this country.

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